

REMARKS

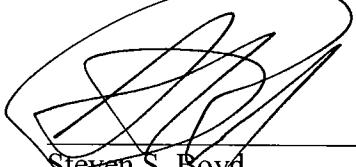
Claims in the Application.

Claims 1-11 and 17-29 are pending in the present application. Claims 12-16 have been canceled. In light of the amendment and following remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the active claims of this application are in a condition for Allowance and Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

CONCLUSION

For the stated reasons, reconsideration is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or credit the Deposit Account No. 12-1322 of Locke Liddell & Sapp LLP under Order No. 021544-00002. In light of the foregoing remarks, the claims of the application have been distinguished over the cited references. The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at (713) 226-1218 should he deem it necessary to advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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